

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Kennedy Space Center  
Kennedy Space Center, FL 32899

January 12, 2012



CC-A

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: CC/Chief Counsel

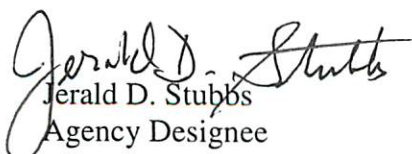
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at the Atlantis Home Ground Breaking Ceremony, January 18, 2012

On January 18, 2012, Delaware North Companies (DNC) will host the Atlantis Home Ground Breaking Ceremony and Reception at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex (KSCVC) starting at 11:00 am. Approximately 900 guests are expected to attend. Invitees include corporate and industry executives and workers, area tourism and community leaders, aerospace contractors, DNC clients, NASA employees and representatives of Federal, state and local government. The approximate value of the event is \$78 per person.

I find this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event. This event will allow Agency officials to show support for and celebrate the Space Shuttle program and the transfer of Atlantis to its home at the KSCVC. In addition, attendees will be in a diverse forum conducive to disseminating information on NASA's ongoing and future activities and discussing matters of interest to NASA.

Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect DNC, including those employees who are in non-career positions for which Executive Order 13490 requires the signing of an ethics pledge, may accept an invitation for complimentary attendance at the event. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect DNC, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from the Chief Counsel's Office.

In addition, DNC will provide an event-specific lapel mission pin valued at \$1.20 to each of the attendees. Attendees are reminded of the \$20 gift exception at 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(a), which provides that employees may accept gifts valued at no more than \$20 per occasion. Therefore, in addition to accepting free attendance at the event, NASA employees may accept the lapel pin. NASA invitees are reminded not to exceed the \$50 cap on gifts from any one source in a calendar year.

  
Gerald D. Stubbs  
Agency Designee